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Usage of INFORM GRI in Humanitarian Aid and Development Assistance Initiatives

*Results of the INFORM
GRI's Impact Survey*

Messina, L
Poljansek, K
Vernaccini, L

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INFORM
INDEX FOR RISK MANAGEMENT

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Contact information

Name: Karmen Poljanšek
Address: Via E. Fermi 2749, 21027 Ispra (VA), Italy
Email: karmen.poljansek@ec.europa.eu
Tel.: +39 0332 783650

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Authors affiliations:

Laura Messina, traineeship program at European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Ispra, Italy

Karmen Poljanšek, European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Ispra, Italy

Luca Vernaccini, Fincons SpA external service provider of European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Ispra, Italy

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Abstract

After five years since the first official release of INFORM GRI in 2014, the *INFORM GRI's Impact Survey* aimed at assessing the current usage of INFORM GRI, the impact its usage has had in decision-making, the support and promotion it has received and the improvements and future endeavours that are considered necessary. The multiple choice survey has been left open for six weeks on the *EUSurvey* platform. It has been open to any users wishing to contribute to it. Nineteen contributions have been submitted, seventeen from the INFORM partners and two from other users. The results have essentially confirmed the expectations. Among the contributors to the survey, the regular users of INFORM GRI and the occasional users are almost even. However, regular users are using it very frequently, more than seasonally. This seems to indicate still a high usage of the tool, despite the number of occasional users. INFORM GRI is then used for several reasons, above all for country analyses but also for supporting decision-making for allocation of resources in humanitarian aid. It is used in combination with other quantitative and qualitative measures and often adapted to the users' specific needs. INFORM GRI has provided humanitarian and development practitioners with a shared tool based on an agreed methodology that has supported evidence based analyses and decisions as well as the adoption of a risk based approach. Nonetheless, there is still a lot to be done for making humanitarian and development assistance more effective and coordinated. INFORM GRI is generally promoted internally within the organisation but also externally with partner organisations to a more limited extent. Finally, the clear outcome is that the regional or subnational model is the most required, followed by a seasonally updated index and less by a hazard dependent index. The idea of a platform for sharing knowledge, data and best practices needs to be better clarified instead. It has received positive feedback, although there is some uncertainty and reluctance with respect to the collaboration and sharing of the contents of it.

Role of the authors

Laura Messina, as trainee, worked on the assessment of INFORM GRI's impact as her traineeship project. She reviewed the literature, prepared the survey, performed all the analysis, and wrote the report.

Karmen Poljanšek, as trainee's scientific supervisor, was following the whole process and was responsible for the preparation of the report.

Luca Vernaccini, as the external consultant, supported the report's preparation with his rich experiences in the field of INFORM.

1 Introduction and context

The INFORM initiative started in 2012 under the premise that a common understanding of the drivers of humanitarian risks was necessary among the humanitarian assistance community. It brought together a number of UN agencies, donors, NGOs and research institutions. The JRC was leading the technical discussions.

The INFORM Global Risk Index (INFORM GRI) resulted from this process and since its first official release in 2014 it has provided humanitarian and development practitioners with a common evidence base on the drivers of humanitarian risks. It has supported the adoption of a risk-based approach. Indeed, a shift from an essentially reactive humanitarian crisis response model towards a proactive crisis and disaster management framework was deemed necessary with a view to making humanitarian and development assistance more effective and coordinated.

INFORM GRI helps identify where and why humanitarian crises and/or disasters may occur, thus reducing the risks, improving people's preparedness, resilience and ability to better respond. It is an open-source, global, objective and transparent methodology. It is designed to support decisions about crises and disaster prevention, preparedness and response. Although it cannot be used to predict individual crisis, it can be used as a tool for developing strategies, plan and programmes ⁽¹⁾.

After five years since its first official release, it was time for a first assessment of INFORM GRI's impact. It was agreed in the last Annual Meeting (on 28-29 June 2018 in Geneva) to conduct an analysis in order to better understand how INFORM GRI is being used and how it impacts on decision-making.

The INFORM GRI's Impact Survey has thus been launched on 8 February 2019. It has been divided into four sections, in order to investigate on: the way INFORM GRI is currently being used; how it has influenced the way humanitarian and development organisations operate; how it has been promoted internally and externally; and finally, how it can be improved and what tools are more needed.

The main expectation was therefore to appraise to what extent INFORM GRI is being used and has influenced positive changes among humanitarian and development practitioners. Following on that, the survey also aimed at evaluating what improvements should be done to INFORM GRI and what different tools are needed to further reach more effective and coordinated humanitarian and development assistance.

⁽¹⁾ For the full methodology, please see Marin-Ferrer, M., Vernaccini, L. and Poljansek, K., *Index for Risk Management INFORM Concept and Methodology Report – Version 2017*, EUR 28655 EN, doi:10.2760/094023, available online at <http://www.inform-index.org/>.

2 INFORM GRI's Impact Survey

The survey was a multiple choice survey uploaded in the online EUSurvey platform as an open access survey. It was open to anybody wishing to contribute to it. For the purpose of a wider dissemination the survey has been advertised on the INFORM website and the DRMKC website which were provided with the direct link to the survey itself.

INFORM partners have been personally contacted and asked to disseminate it to their list of contacts as the latter might use INFORM GRI and be interested in answering the survey as well. Additionally, partners were kindly asked to participate within a shorter period of time. The survey was left open for six weeks to gather contributions from the wider public but given their commitment to the INFORM initiative and the time necessary for completing the survey, INFORM partners were asked to possibly submit their contributions in two weeks in order to have this analysis completed in a short period of time.

As regards the survey itself, after analysing the INFORM initiative, the methodology and concept under INFORM GRI and the set of tools under development or planned to be developed under the INFORM initiative, a set of questions was prepared in order to deal with the main issues that the survey should have addressed. It was designed along the lines mentioned above and therefore divided into the following four sections:

- use of INFORM GRI;
- impact of INFORM GRI;
- advocacy; and,
- improvements for future perspectives.

It took approximately 15 minutes to complete. It was meant to be short in order to receive as many contributions as possible while at the same time being detailed enough to achieve the goal of mapping INFORM GRI's impact. Although the multiple choice method was chosen, space for comments and more detailed answers was also left.

The results of the survey will be presented in the following sections with the provision of some selected tables.

All tables with full results and the INFORM GRI's Impact Survey itself are included in the Annexes.

2.1 Main findings

The survey received nineteen contributions. They were essentially submitted by INFORM partners while two (out of nineteen) contributions came from the education field and from a private donor organisation for humanitarian and development aid.

Results will be explained below according to each section of the survey. The analysis will be conducted considering what was expected during the design of the survey and what the replies to the survey have confirmed or not.

2.1.1 Use of INFORM GRI

The survey has been generally answered by users as representatives of their own organisation, rather than under a personal capacity. Besides, the majority of the respondents have been using INFORM GRI since its first official release in 2014 or have been partners since the first technical discussions in 2012. Fewer respondents have been using it more recently.

The idea in this section was to understand the current usage of INFORM GRI. Therefore, respondents were firstly asked to indicate whether they are using INFORM GRI regularly or not and if regularly used, how often INFORM GRI is being used. On the contrary, if INFORM GRI is not being used, the characteristics of it, including possible weaknesses have been listed in order to better understand why and under which circumstances it

cannot be considered useful. The objective was clearly to see whether INFORM GRI is a tool regularly used because it is considered useful by users in their analysis and work. In order to go then into better details, the questions went on addressing the purpose for which INFORM GRI is being used and how it is being used. Indeed, from the analysis of the INFORM initiative, considering the available material, such as public reports from partner organisations as well as INFORM own reports ⁽²⁾ and the "Interpretation Papers", i.e. internal documents disseminated among the initial INFORM partners as a preliminary survey on the way INFORM GRI would be used, it has been possible to get insights into the purposes and the way INFORM GRI is currently being used. This knowledge has been reflected in the options provided in the survey. From that analysis, the main reasons for using INFORM GRI turned out to be:

- to prioritise countries and guide decisions for the allocation of resources either for humanitarian aid (HA) or for development programs;
- to develop evidence based analysis for countries' profiles and humanitarian reports in order to foster better actions;
- to advocate more support to countries at risk; and to monitor progress and success of actions deployed.

At the same time, INFORM GRI has been frequently adapted according to the specific needs of the users and has been often used together with other tools. For example, the IDMC has used disaggregated data for analysing and highlighting different aspects and drivers of internal displacement, while the WHO has adapted INFORM GRI for its own purposes, specifically for Ebola and this has supported decisions for the allocation of resources ⁽³⁾. The pilot initiative of a Disaster Risk and Age Index developed by HelpAge International is an adaptation of INFORM GRI with the removal of non-relevant indicators and the introduction of additional indicators within the vulnerability and capacity components to better grasp vulnerability in terms of older people capacity to face risks ⁽⁴⁾. At the JRC, GDACS uses the lack of coping capacity dimension of INFORM GRI in its analysis to assess potential impact of earthquakes and tsunamis ⁽⁵⁾. Similarly, FAO also uses as a reference the lack of coping capacity dimension of INFORM GRI ⁽⁶⁾. INFORM GRI has been included in the analysis to identify countries at highest risk of El Niño impact in a joint initiative of FAO, OCHA and a number of other humanitarian and development actors ⁽⁷⁾. The OCHA Regional Focus Model is based on INFORM GRI ⁽⁸⁾ while USAID has developed the Indicators for Disaster Exposure and Risk (IDER) as part of the Country Data Analytics (CDA) by building upon and adapting the INFORM GRI concept and method to serve its specific needs and priorities ⁽⁹⁾. The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has elaborated the CERF Index of Risk and Vulnerability (CIRV) which heavily relies on INFORM GRI in combination with additional measures ⁽¹⁰⁾. GFDRR uses INFORM GRI and its component sub-indicators as benchmark for prioritization ⁽¹¹⁾.

⁽²⁾ See INFORM Results Reports and INFORM Global Model, *Interpreting and Applying, Guidance Note*, 2016. All material is available online at <http://www.inform-index.org/>.

⁽³⁾ See INFORM Results 2018 Report, available online at <http://www.inform-index.org/>.

⁽⁴⁾ See HelpAge International, *Disaster Risk and Age Index*, London, HelpAge International, 2015.

⁽⁵⁾ See GDACS website: http://www.gdacs.org/Knowledge/models_eq.aspx.

⁽⁶⁾ See FAO, *Global Early Warning – Early Action Report on Food Security and Agriculture*, January-March 2018.

⁽⁷⁾ See FAO, *Advisory on 2018/19 El Niño, High risk countries and potential impacts on food security and agriculture*; see also OCHA, Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO), *Response Plan for the El-Niño-Induced Drought in Southern-Africa*, May 2016-April 2017, where INFORM GRI was used as a model.

⁽⁸⁾ See for example, OCHA, *Asia and the Pacific: 2016 Regional Focus Model*, OCHA, 2016.

⁽⁹⁾ See USAID, *Indicators for Disaster Exposure and Risk (IDER) Statement of Methodology, Country Data Analytics (CDA)*, April 2015.

⁽¹⁰⁾ See INFORM Results 2017 Report, available online at <http://www.inform-index.org/> and CERF, *Methodology for UFE Analysis 2016*, CERF, 2016.

⁽¹¹⁾ See GFDRR, *Managing Disaster Risks for a Resilient Future, A Work Plan for the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery 2016-2018*, GFDRR, 2015.

This usage of INFORM GRI has been confirmed by the survey.

Turning now to the results of the survey, as shown below in Table 1 and Table 2, first of all a majority of respondents are regular users of INFORM GRI, although the number of regular users and occasional users is almost even. Above all, the regular users use it frequently, more than four times per year. Those who are using it only occasionally are generally using it for country analyses or in fewer cases for humanitarian reports. In two cases occasional users use INFORM GRI also for supporting decisions on the allocation of resources or for monitoring the progress and success of the programs or interventions.

Despite the occasional usage of many respondents, the facts that still **a majority of the respondents are using INFORM GRI not only regularly but even more frequently than seasonally** seems to indicate a quite high usage of the tool anyway.

Table 1. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, regularly (at least 1 per year)		10	52.63%
Occasionally (less than 1 year)		8	42.11%
Not at the moment but it has been planned to use it		1	5.26%
Not at all		0	0%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 2. How often do you/does your organisation use it?

		Answers	Ratio
Yearly		1	5.26%
Seasonally		2	10.53%
More frequently		7	36.84%
In cases of emergencies and disasters		1	5.26%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		9	47.37%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Moving on to the reasons for its usage, as it can be seen from Table 3 below, INFORM GRI is **mainly used for country analyses** which was the most chosen option. Nonetheless, it is also being used to support decision-making for allocation of resources in the HA. "Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for development programs" was selected only by one donor. The respondents are indeed essentially from the humanitarian assistance field or both humanitarian and development, rather than from development cooperation only.

"Humanitarian reports" was also quite chosen as an option. "Communication and advocacy to donors for more support to countries at risk", and finally "monitoring progress and success of activities/interventions" follow as reasons to use INFORM GRI.

With regard to the countries of intervention, those respondents who are using INFORM GRI for supporting decision-making normally intervene to very high and high risk countries according to INFORM GRI because those are the countries more in need of external assistance, where Country Offices need to get prepared for response or that are currently or have recently experienced a disaster or a crisis, hence the humanitarian needs are still ongoing and high, as the respondents commented.

Table 3. What are you/is your organisation using INFORM GRI for?

		Answers	Ratio
Country analyses		16	84.21%
Humanitarian reports		6	31.58%
Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for humanitarian aid		8	42.11%
Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for development programs		1	5.26%
Communication and advocacy to donors for more support to countries at risk		4	21.05%
Monitoring progress and success of activities/interventions		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

In some cases INFORM GRI has replaced another quantitative index, like Maplecroft, the OCHA Global Focus Model, and the GVCA - Global Vulnerability and Crisis Assessment. The reasons given for this replacement are: the shared and agreed methodology of INFORM GRI that is preferred for its quality, analytical rigour and objectivity. It is also preferred to agency-specific methodology. INFORM GRI is then considered to have better and more data/indicators; open and common data across different organisations and sectors; the additional 'lack of capacity' dimension as well as the improved methodology and regular releases have been highlighted; finally, INFORM GRI being a risk-based approach and the result of a joint initiative of a big number of stakeholders whose results are accepted by all stakeholders have also been mentioned. As it will be seen right below, however, respondents to the survey also specified that rather than replacing a previous index, INFORM GRI supplements their quantitative work.

Table 4. Has INFORM GRI replaced a previous quantitative risk index you were/your organisation was using?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, INFORM GRI is more suitable for my organisation's needs		5	26.32%
No, we were not using any other quantitative index		8	42.11%

Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 5. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI in combination with other indices?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, we use it with other global risk indices		13	68.42%
No, we use it alone		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		3	15.79%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

INFORM GRI is used indeed as a complementary tool, in combination with other quantitative and qualitative tools.

It is used together with other indices and tools, not only global risk indices but also political and instability risk indices, global displacement risk and early warning systems or climate change risk information, for example. Some used tools have been indicated as internal only or country specific indices as well as sector specific indices; other expressively mentioned tools are instead: World Bank statistics, the Global Risk Report and the Global Hunger Index. The private donor has underlined that while they also use other risk indices, INFORM GRI is however regarded as the right index for identifying humanitarian risks within their organization.

Field office assessments and experts' opinion are equally widely used. For example, INFORM GRI data are cross-checked with on-the ground information concerning the level and severity of ongoing humanitarian needs by one partner while another partner uses INFORM GRI in combination with ACAPS analyses for its Humanitarian Early Warning process. However, with regard to the possibility to share the results of these field and experts' analyses, there is willingness to share them only to a very limited extent. Only three partners clearly answered positively in this sense. The great majority of the respondents were reluctant or explicitly stating that these are internal information that cannot be made available.

As shown in Table 6 then, in respect of the way INFORM GRI is being used as a tool, it is equally used as the overall index and by dimensions, categories, and/or components. It is then often used as a database of indicators. For example, some specific indicators are said to be automatically copied in one section of the ECHO Integrated Analysis Framework (IAF). As far as the INFORM GRI's results are concerned instead, ranking and countries profile are the most used results. Risk trends follow while maps are less used, as it can be seen in Table 7.

Table 6. How do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
As the overall index INFORM GRI		13	68.42%
By dimensions/categories/components		12	63.16%
As a database of indicators		8	42.11%

Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 7. Which INFORM GRI's results do you/does your organisation use?

		Answers	Ratio
Maps		5	26.32%
Ranking		15	78.95%
Risk trends		7	36.84%
Countries profile		14	73.68%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Furthermore, INFORM GRI is often adapted to the users' needs, either by adding other dimensions, categories, components, and/or indicators to the overall INFORM GRI or the other way around, that is, by disaggregating the overall INFORM GRI and adding other dimensions, categories, components, and/or indicators. Two partners use it both as an overall index and adapted to their specific needs.

Examples of adaptation have been provided by the respondents. One is the OECD Fragility Framework. Another INFORM partner mentioned its work with its Africa regional department on risk modelling El Niño effect and the adaptation of the INFORM model made in collaboration with another partner for a specific risk analysis on fall armyworm. A number of initiatives, each one tailoring INFORM GRI to the specific targets have been indicated, like: the EU Aid Volunteers (taking out countries with highly violent conflicts); annual HA budget allocation; the HA disaster preparedness programme DIPECHO (specifically analysing the hazards category); HA budget allocation for large-scale sudden-onset disasters (adding the data/ components on possible 'impact' of disasters in a given territory). Finally, the private donor specified that they use it for the risk analysis which is broken down to the subnational level by using the INFORM scoring method. In a second phase, the possible negative impacts on the sectors they work in are identified for the highest ranked risks in a country.

With regard to the possibility of sharing the results of INFORM GRI's adapted models, only two core partners expressed their willingness in this sense, without considering those tools already available, such as the OECD Fragility Framework or the INFORM Subnational Model in Latin American and the Caribbean. The rest of the users seem to be again rather reluctant or not willing to share them because of confidentiality reasons.

Finally, in this section some suggestions were asked on how to improve INFORM website with a view to making it more user-friendly in accordance with the users' needs.

As it can be seen from Table 8, all the options provided were chosen more than once. However, the "customisation or adaptation of the model for internal use" was the most wished. Among the comments, the respondents have asked for exportable iframes so that other platforms could integrate the results with the request of technical support in order to implement this. Additionally, sub-national models have been asked. What can be

already noted here is that the subnational index is the one that has been selected more often among the tools that would better address the users' needs. Likewise, the request for subnational models has been frequently put forward in the comments.

The "Filtering the categories or components", "trends by component" and, "more geographical maps per country or region" options were also quite highly selected; they were the second most chosen options. They are immediately followed by "more interaction with the data", "facilitated comparison of trends across countries", "more dynamic visualisation" and, "access to a platform for additional information and sharing analyses and decisions". "Data analysis in tabular form", and above all "better design to facilitate access to resources" received lower and the lowest interest respectively.

One more comment was about the website appearance, considered "vintage" at the moment and requiring improvement; while another comment asked for a clear statement or a disclaimer concerning the source, the veracity and the age of the data used.

In the previous survey on the INFORM website conducted in 2017 (Annex C and D), it was specified that the INFORM website had been initially designed to be low-profile, essentially a web-content for retrieving the latest results. When asked to give their opinion whether this approach should be maintained or not, the majority of the respondents replied positively in the sense that the same low-profile should have been kept. The information mostly searched for in the website being the latest INFORM GRI's results, respondents affirmed that they would have kept the website essentially low-profile, provided that access to the data was guaranteed. However, a number of users were in favour of an improvement and higher profile with additional content of the INFORM website. They thought that the website would have gained at providing more detailed and contextual analysis, especially on trends; more documentation and material, including a forum for discussion. Again, when asked about their willingness to contribute to the content of the website, there were few positive answers whereas the majority of the answers were either negative or reluctant. The same reluctance for sharing results and collaborating with the content emerged in the last section of this survey, as it will be seen below.

Table 8. What improvements should be made to INFORM GRI's website in your opinion?

		Answers	Ratio
Better design to facilitate access to resources		5	26.32%
More interaction with the data		8	42.11%
Filtering the categories or components		9	47.37%
Trends by components		9	47.37%
Facilitate comparison of trends across countries		8	42.11%
More dynamic visualisation		8	42.11%
More geographical maps per country or region		9	47.37%
Data analysis in tabular form		7	36.84%
Customisation/adaptation of the model for internal use		10	52.63%
Access to a platform for additional information and sharing analyses and decisions		8	42.11%

Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

2.1.2 Impact of INFORM GRI

Following up on the first section regarding the usage of INFORM GRI, the objective of the second section was to evaluate INFORM GRI's impact in terms of positive and meaningful changes in the way humanitarian and development organisations operate, always bearing in mind that the ultimate goal is to move towards better coordinated and effective humanitarian and development assistance that saves and improves people's lives. The idea was to:

1. further investigate on whether INFORM GRI's users consider that it has met the initial expectations and to what extent, especially the partners who have been involved since the very beginning and share the values and goals of the INFORM initiative;
2. ask whether INFORM GRI is being widely used within an organisation by analysts but with full awareness of its existence and usage by top managers as well;
3. appraise whether INFORM GRI is being usefully used also at the field office's level and whether it has brought positive changes in this context as well.

As it can be seen from Table 9, consistently with the first section where it turned out that INFORM GRI is mostly used for country analyses, what resulted in this second section is that INFORM GRI has supported evidence-based country analyses. What can be drawn from the answers to this question is indeed **that INFORM GRI has generally contributed to better analyses based on quantitative assessment**. This confirms an achievement, since INFORM GRI was meant to provide a common evidence base.

INFORM GRI has equally supported evidence-based risk approach analyses. As one donor commented, INFORM GRI is being used by them for risk informed programming together with emergency preparedness and response planning.

Importantly, **INFORM GRI has also contributed to a shift from an only reactive approach in cases of emergencies toward a risk based approach focused on prevention and preparedness** and this was also one of the goals of INFORM GRI. When INFORM GRI is also used then to support advocacy either within the organisation (which happens more frequently) or outside it, this is a positive contribution again in terms of fostering evidence-based knowledge and decisions.

Less chosen was the option considering that INFORM GRI has helped taking "evidence-based decisions on allocation of resources", notwithstanding that in the previous section the option indicating that INFORM GRI is being used for supporting decision-making in the allocation of resources for humanitarian aid has been selected more times. However, one core partner commented that INFORM GRI is used in combination with their field experts' assessment in order to have an indication for fund allocation to crisis; and therefore, as another partner underlined it, it may be difficult to measure INFORM GRI's impact considering that it is being used together with other tools.

On the other side, the negative replies to this question are from organisations using INFORM GRI only occasionally, which could explain a more limited impact. One partner is actually using it regularly but they are at the early stage of its usage, since they joined only recently. Hence, it is not yet possible for them to see the changes brought by INFORM GRI's usage. On the contrary, for two partners INFORM GRI is not useful because it is at the country level, it is not updated frequently enough and additional

efforts should be done for data quality. For example, what has been explicitly mentioned is that the conflict risk component of INFORM GRI is considered not accurate enough to meet their needs. INFORM GRI is used only for comparing their analysis of risk with it, as the level of accuracy for conflict risk is not adequate for a deeper use of it.

Going more into details, as it can be seen from Table 10, INFORM GRI is **interestingly known also by top managers more often than not**. Analysts are the ones who generally use INFORM GRI. It is said to be widely used by analysts only in five cases by some partner organisations, whereas in the majority of the cases it is used only partially. As seen above, however, INFORM GRI is generally used in combination with a number of other tools which could explain why it is not extensively used. Or, only a limited number of analysts use it, as one partner has underlined.

Table 9. If you have/your organisation has adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures, what changes has INFORM GRI brought?

		Answers	Ratio
Shift from reactive to risk based approach (prevention and preparedness)		8	42.11%
Evidence-based risk approach analysis		10	52.63%
Evidence-based countries analysis		10	52.63%
Evidence-based decisions on allocation of resources		4	21.05%
Evidence-based advocacy within the organisation		6	31.58%
Evidence-based advocacy outside the organisation		4	21.05%
Evidence-based advocacy within the affected country		3	15.79%
Evidence-based monitoring of progress and success of activities/interventions		1	5.26%
None of the above/no change		1	5.26%
You have/your organisation has not adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		3	15.79%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 10. At what level is INFORM GRI used in your organisation?

		Answers	Ratio
It is widely used by analysts		5	26.32%
It is partially used by analysts		12	63.16%

Top managers are also aware of its use		8	42.11%
Top managers are not aware of its use		4	21.05%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

The survey went on asking directly the respondents' opinion on whether INFORM GRI has met its initial expectations and supported meaningful changes in the sense of improved effectiveness and coordination.

According to the majority of answers, as it can be seen in Table 11 below, although **INFORM GRI has played a role in what is needed to reach better coordination and effectiveness in humanitarian and development assistance, there is room for improvement.** INFORM GRI has supported a common understanding of the humanitarian risks and drivers and in a more limited way also better coordinated actions, improved effectiveness of prioritisation and allocation of resources. Generally speaking, it is evident that there is still a lot to be done in reaching a major achievement in better coordination and effectiveness. INFORM GRI has given its contribution in terms of supporting and fostering more objective country and risk approach analyses as well as the adoption of a risk based approach, as seen in Table 9. The wording of the options provided in this question might have been perceived too ambitious or optimistic by the respondents. This could explain the cautious replies which might be seen a bit inconsistent with the previous ones. However, as just said, some progress in the direction of improved coordination and effectiveness has been recognised where INFORM GRI has played a role, while a lot still remains to be done.

Comments have been submitted to this question. It has been commented that INFORM GRI is a strong and helpful tool; a resource for any analysis at the headquarters level. It has been used as key evidence to advise the UK government on additional resources in multiple crises, for example. A positive aspect that has been highlighted is that the INFORM community has drawn together a wide range of actors to think collaboratively about humanitarian risk. Another core partner commented that INFORM GRI is widely used by donors and agencies in resource allocation and it is commonly referred to by both humanitarian and development stakeholders. A partner that has recently joined and is at the early stages of the process of integrating INFORM GRI in its analysis and decision-making commented that they are working to reach a meaningful support from the tool. The private donor commented that INFORM GRI has changed and supported their understanding of humanitarian risks as well as their risk informed programming.

For those respondents that use INFORM GRI only occasionally, again it makes sense that it has a negligible impact. One partner commented that they cannot rely on INFORM GRI for decision making at the global level as they need to rely more on qualitative analyses when working on emergency preparedness in countries. Likewise, another partner commented that although the tool itself is quite strong and helpful, the challenge is on the utilization end of the same agency. Finally, a core partner underlined that their funding is decided at the crisis level, therefore, they will rely more on the INFORM Global Crisis Severity Index.

Table 11. In your/your organisation's opinion, has INFORM GRI met its initial expectations?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, it has meaningfully supported a common understanding of humanitarian risks and drivers		5	26.32%

Yes, it has meaningfully supported better coordinated actions among humanitarian and development stakeholders		3	15.79%
Yes, it has improved effectiveness of prioritisation by humanitarian and development stakeholders		2	10.53%
Yes, it has improved effectiveness of allocation of resources among countries in need by humanitarian and development stakeholders		2	10.53%
Maybe, it has partially helped but there is room for improvement		10	52.63%
No, INFORM GRI's added-value has been negligible		4	21.05%
Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

As said then, the last question of the impact section of the survey aimed at investigating on whether INFORM GRI has brought positive changes also in the local offices' way of working.

Although the majority of the answers are negative in this sense, as it can be seen from Table 12, the respondents provided again some comments.

Putting aside the partner that does not have local offices, another partner explained that several of their teams in country offices regularly refer to INFORM GRI's data, although this is not yet systematically done. The same partner added that they should focus on rolling out training in using INFORM GRI in country offices.

Those respondents who answered that preparedness has improved specified that this is in the sense of information purposes only in one case and more alignment with individual agencies preparedness plan in the second case. The last respondent giving a positive answer to the question specified instead that they are rolling out a new structured emergency preparedness and response planning where INFORM GRI is being used for the risk analysis. The same respondent added, however, that to break the index information down on the subnational level by applying the same methodology and using it with practitioners in the field remains a challenge for them.

A core partner commented that they received a lot of positive feedback on improved coordination and preparedness linked, however, to the INFORM Subnational Risk Index. The same partner also commented that while many appreciate INFORM GRI, the main reproach is that it doesn't capture the reality of the localized humanitarian needs. INFORM GRI is said to provide a biased overview of the situation since it gathers information at country level and not at crisis level. Additionally, the low frequency update is considered another major concern. Again this comment leads to the conclusions already drawn and that will be directly addressed in the last section that the subnational level and a more frequently updated index are the most demanded tools by partners.

Table 12. Have you received any feedback from local offices on how INFORM GRI's usage has influenced their work?

		Answers	Ratio

Yes, preparedness has improved (e.g. capacity, response, effectiveness)		3	15.79%
No, I have not received any feedback		13	68.42%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

2.1.3 Advocacy

The objective of the third section was to assess another aspect of impact. Partners have been committed to incorporating INFORM GRI in their internal decision-making and to demonstrating the added value of having done so to other interested organisations, thus promoting INFORM's use. The idea was indeed to measure the level of partners' satisfaction with regard to INFORM GRI and the benefits of its usage. Through this, the aim was to understand whether the tool is supported and promoted internally as well as externally of the organisations themselves and if so, how it is being promoted. This was important in order to better grasp INFORM GRI's success after five years since its first release and whether it is worth the effort to improve the tool, to continue the INFORM initiative with the provision of even more tools that have been asked for and might support better coordinated and effective humanitarian and development assistance.

As it can be seen from Table 13 and Table 14 below, **INFORM GRI has been promoted within the organisations more often than outside to other partner organisations.** However, the option on the external promotion has always been selected together with the first one on the internal promotion. Therefore, some of the respondents have not only recommended it within their own organisation to other groups, units or departments but also externally to other partner organisations.

One partner specified in the comment that part of the organisation has been briefed about the tool, so not as a promotion but at least there is awareness about the tool inside the organisation. On the contrary, in relation to the partners that indicated that they have not recommended INFORM GRI's use, in two cases these answers came from two partners that contributed to the survey twice with exactly opposite answers to this specific question. The rest of the negative answers are from partners using it occasionally, so that the same reflection already made above can be applied here as well. **Partners not using INFORM GRI regularly might have no interest in promoting its use.**

Overall, it can be concluded that respondents to the survey are generally supporting the tool, mainly internally but sometimes also externally. In addition to this, those who have recommended it, they have done so by sharing information about INFORM GRI as well as referencing it. As the private donor specified, INFORM GRI is being included in the induction for their new staff and in the risk analysis for different processes within their organization. Another user promoting INFORM GRI internally as well as externally has also indicated in a previous comment that they incorporate INFORM GRI's data into policy and discussion documents for government and donors.

Table 13. Have you recommended INFORM GRI's use either internally or externally?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I have recommended its use within the organisation, to other Groups/Units/Departments		13	68.42%

Yes, I have recommended its use to partner organisations		6	31.58%
No, I have not recommended its use		5	26.32%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 14. If you have recommended INFORM GRI's use, can you please tell us by which means?

		Answers	Ratio
Sharing information about your use of INFORM GRI		14	73.68%
Referencing INFORM GRI		10	52.63%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

2.1.4 Improvements for future perspectives

The last section was meant to assess the partners' needs in order to provide them with improvements of INFORM GRI and with a set of new tools under development or planned to be developed. Moreover, with the view of again supporting and fostering more coordinated and effective interventions in humanitarian and development assistance, which is a shared value under the INFORM initiative, this section was planned to even go further into asking for partners' motivation towards a platform for active collaboration in sharing knowledge, practices and priorities.

From the selection made by the respondents to the survey, as shown in the tables below, it is clear that **an index at a subnational or regional scale is the one most requested** and needed. It is followed by an index seasonally updated rather than yearly updated. There is also a specific interest by some users in hazard specific indices.

The conclusion that can be drawn from these results is that as indices at a subnational or regional scale are more needed, INFORM Subnational models should be further supported and developed. Likewise, **a more frequently updated index would be appreciated** and considered much useful. Efforts to develop the planned INFORM Dynamic Risk Monitor should therefore be equally pursued as well as for the INFORM Global Crisis Severity index already under development. One partner already commented that their next priority will be the INFORM Global Crisis Severity Index, while being happy with the current INFORM GRI.

At the same time, appreciation has been expressed for the continued improvements and high quality maintenance of INFORM GRI in one comment. In this respect too, efforts for introducing better indicators and new hazards should be therefore continued. While a specific question on the hazards of interest was missing in the survey, it can be nevertheless inferred from the replies and comments that improvements in this sense, for example for introducing climate change and adaptation in INFORM GRI are very likely to be appreciated and considered useful.

Table 15. Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).: An index with a subnational or regional scale

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		3	15.79%
2/4		1	5.26%
3/4		2	10.53%
4/4		13	68.42%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 16. An index yearly updated

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		9	47.37%
2/4		3	15.79%
3/4		5	26.32%
4/4		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 17. An index seasonally updated (4 times per year)

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		4	21.05%
2/4		4	21.05%
3/4		5	26.32%
4/4		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 18. An index focused on one specific hazard

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		5	26.32%
2/4		7	36.84%
3/4		3	15.79%
4/4		4	21.05%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

For the platform for sharing analyses, best practices, priorities and especially fresh data from the field not much interest was expressed. There are enthusiastic replies considering it a positive and useful tool, while the majority of them is however rather uncertain or cautious. The same goes for the willingness to contribute to it. While there are positive replies of commitment to sharing information, the majority of them are again more reluctant and uncertain about the feasibility of it. One partner commented that it would depend on the data, while another one clearly stated that some data might not be public or not available depending on the lack of human resources. On the other hand, one partner commented that a chat room function could be useful, maybe moderated by the INFORM community. Another partner expressed the view that it would be particularly useful for exchanges on forgotten crises. Nonetheless, the proposal needs to be clarified. Indeed, it has been considered not clear enough or too wide by some partners. It has been commented that too many knowledge platforms already exist as well as a number of initiatives already doing this. Thus, INFORM should be aggregating or analysing existing data. The OCHA HDX - Humanitarian Data Exchange has been quoted as an example of already existing platforms for fresh data from the field. One partner underlined that INFORM GRI is being used because it is clear and quantitative and that is everything they are interested in.

On the basis of these results and comments, further discussion should be conducted on this proposal in order to have a better idea of what is feasible and desirable.

Table 19. If INFORM included a platform to share knowledge, particularly fresh data from the field, practices and priorities for better coordination among humanitarian and development stakeholders, would you/your organisation find it useful to achieve a more effective humanitarian and development assistance?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I/we think it would definitely help in that sense		7	36.84%
Maybe, I/we think that might help		9	47.37%
No, I/we do not think that is the way		1	5.26%
Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

Table 20. Above all, would you be willing to contribute to it by sharing your data, knowledge and practices?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I/we would contribute to it		8	42.11%

I/we would be interested but I/we do not know if that would be feasible		11	57.89%
No, that would not be possible		0	0%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

Source: INFORM GRI's Impact Survey, 2019 (data elaborated by EUSurvey).

2.1.5 Other comments

Finally, at the end of the survey, space has been left for any key lessons learnt or best practices the respondents were willing to share as well as for any further suggestions, recommendations or comments.

In addition to the nice comments on working with the INFORM team and the appreciation for the work done to maintain a high quality of INFORM GRI, other comments have been included and suggestions have been put forward. In some cases, the weaknesses and limitations of INFORM GRI have also been raised; in other, it is maybe the feasibility of the suggestions made that might be argued.

For the sake of completeness, all comments are reported.

While the whole methodology is considered a good learning tool, it has been suggested to make a comparison between the forecasted risk and the actual risk in order to prove the accuracy of the index, since there is no cross-validation yet. A partner affirmed that they base their analysis on risk specifics and not country-wide and they use more qualitative rather than quantitative information which works well for their purposes in early warning. The current INFORM GRI is considered too static to be of use in early warning for humanitarian purposes while it is highlighted that the qualitative analysis is missing to understand the scores. Here it is to be noted, however, that INFORM GRI is not and was not meant to be an early warning system.

Another partner somehow criticized the methodology, asking to separate man-made from natural exposure as well as what concerns the vulnerabilities and the lack of coping capacity as they are not considered comparable measures.

The subnational level of analysis has been raised several times. Again, a partner commented that there is little analysis or data at the sub-national level, despite risks and capacities being very different from one place to another. Additional content on this is considered useful.

One of the partners more enthusiastic and willing to contribute and share their results has expressed its willingness to share their recent completion review, their new Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) framework currently under a new designing, and their Log frame as best practices.

Another partner questioned the utility of the absolute scores while considering interesting key elements in the groupings of countries. On the other side, the same partner suggested that integrating an INFORM platform with other collaborative risk analysis processes would be valuable. For instance, it has been suggested to adapt the INFORM analytical framework for specific contexts or emergencies. This could include linking more dynamic INFORM risk analyses to the Data Entry and Exploratory Platform (DEEP) and/or the IASC Risk and Early Warning group reports or the El-Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) specific Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs), for example. Moreover, the partner suggested that INFORM should use its platform for more advocacy and research around missing data; this might also take the form of supporting national agencies to release data for humanitarian use, funded through INFORM. INFORM should then convene a session around the dynamic risk modelling work, in order to link to the emerging need for a coordinated anticipatory or early action risk framework. Using the same framework, adapted by hazard and with an option for different agencies depending

on their mandate and resources, to set triggers and link to their own internal categorisation or decision-making system would be a valuable contribution, according to the same partner.

A core partner commented that behind the main indicators some sub indicators are also interesting to the users. INFORM GRI should be closely linked to the INFORM Global Crisis Severity Index and should remain as much flexible as possible in order to be integrated into other IT systems through APIs. The indicators and sub indicators of the two INFORM tools are indeed planned to be used as a base for the new version of ECHO IAF to be developed in 2019 and 2020.

3 Final remarks

The aim of the INFORM GRI's Impact Survey was to try to cover all the issues that needed to be analysed in order to be able to extract the necessary information. All the preparatory work, i.e. the study and analysis of INFORM GRI and, more generally, the INFORM initiative was meant to reach a good redaction of the survey. It cannot be however excluded that the questions could have been made clearer or formulated differently. Writing the clearest possible questions and providing all possible options has been challenging. Sometimes the exigence to be clear but at the same time concise has also been troublesome. Besides, having been fully immersed into the INFORM initiative with the preparatory work may also have affected the redaction of the survey in a sense of losing the necessary detachment for not giving for granted some aspects of the issues.

Despite the weaknesses it may have, it has been a really interesting exercise. The four sections of the survey dealt with all the points that needed to be investigated on and good results could be extracted. Some final remarks are, however, necessary to conclude the report.

The outcome of the INFORM GRI's Impact Survey essentially confirmed the expectations.

With regard firstly to the **use of INFORM GRI**, the survey confirmed that INFORM GRI is frequently used by some partners, only occasionally by others. However, regular users use it very frequently, more often than four times per year which seems to indicate still a quite high usage of the tool. It is used for a number of reasons, mainly for country analyses but also in decision-making for allocation of resources. It is used together with other quantitative and qualitative measures and often adapted for the users' specific needs. It is used as an overall index but its dimensions, categories, components as well as all indicators are equally used according to the users' needs.

Secondly, in respect of **INFORM GRI's impact**, INFORM GRI has provided the humanitarian and development practitioners with a common evidence base on the drivers of humanitarian risks as part of a shared and agreed methodology. It has helped with the adoption of more objective analyses and decisions. This was one of the goals under the INFORM initiative since the beginning. It is said to have also fostered the adoption of a risk based approach focused on prevention and preparedness which was another goal.

The ultimate goal of reaching a more coordinated and effective humanitarian and development assistance is quite an ambitious one that cannot be reached by one tool only obviously. The survey's results indicate, however, that INFORM GRI has given its contribution, although a lot remains to be done. At least INFORM GRI has provided practitioners with a shared and agreed tool that has supported more objective analyses based on quantitative assessments, as it was originally in the aims of the initiative.

Thirdly, the section concerning the **promotion and support given by users to INFORM GRI** within their own organisation as well as outside has revealed that the tool is generally promoted, more often internally but information about the tool are shared and it is referred to in internal documents.

The last section on **future improvements and efforts of INFORM GRI** has demonstrated that the regional or subnational level is the most requested. This has been clear all along the survey and in the comments provided. Additionally, a seasonally updated index is also considered more useful, followed by a hazard dependant index. Here, a question on which specific hazard would have been of interest to the respondents was missing. It would have been interesting to know which particular hazard would have been selected, whether climate change and adaptation, technological or biological hazards. Despite a missing question on this, it can be inferred from the results of the survey and the comments that the efforts for improving INFORM GRI, by adding other or better indicators on specific hazards has always been welcomed and appreciated and they would be so in the future, on climate change and adaptation, for example. In relation to the platform for sharing knowledge, fresh data from the field and practices, the question was considered by some not clear enough. Interesting inputs have been

provided in this regard and the discussion about this proposal should be continued in order to better understand what would be feasible and more useful. Indeed, positive feedback has also been expressed in this regard but willingness to collaborate and share remains problematic.

A final point may be the collaboration from partners. The initiative to conduct a survey had been agreed at the last Annual Meeting (on 28-29 June 2018 in Geneva) and the multiple choice survey took approximately 15 minutes to complete. Nineteen contributions were submitted with three partners' organizations contributing twice. In order to increase the submissions, it might be interesting to reopen the survey so that contributions may be collected from other users even at a later stage. A revised version of the survey with additional questions on the missing part or a clarified proposal on the platform could be provided.

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List of abbreviations and definitions

CDA	Country Data Analytics
CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
CIRV	CERF Index of Risk and Vulnerability
DEEP	Data Entry and Exploratory Platform
DRMCK	Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre
ENSO	El-Niño Southern Oscillation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GDACS	Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
GVCA	Global Vulnerability and Crisis Assessment
HA	Humanitarian Aid
HDX	Humanitarian Data Exchange
IAF	Integrated Analysis Framework
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDER	Indicators for Disaster Exposure and Risk
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SOP	Standard Operations Procedure
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

Annex A - INFORM GRI's Impact Survey

INFORM GRI's Impact Survey

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction and scope of the survey

Since the first launch in 2014, the INFORM Global Risk Index (INFORM GRI) has been elaborated with the aim of supporting a proactive crisis management framework and making humanitarian assistance more coordinated and effective. The idea was to build a common evidence base with a sound understanding of the drivers of humanitarian risks so that humanitarian and development stakeholders could improve their prioritisation and allocation of resources.

The JRC has taken this initiative to evaluate whether INFORM GRI has had a real impact on the way humanitarian and development practitioners operate.

The survey is divided into four sections. Firstly, we want to understand how INFORM GRI is being used. Secondly, we want to investigate INFORM GRI's impact in decision-making, particularly whether it brought significant changes or not. Thirdly, we are interested in your satisfaction with INFORM GRI and your commitment to advocating for it. Lastly, we want to better understand your needs for future improvements of INFORM GRI and for the development of tools that better suit your needs. A set of new tools are under development or planned to be developed. "INFORM Dynamic Risk Monitor", a 3-12 month early warning tool has been planned, while the "INFORM Global Crisis Severity Index", a 0-3 month tool is currently under development. On a subnational and regional scale, "INFORM Subnational Indices" are already available for some areas. Moreover, it is possible to develop "Hazard dependent INFORM Indices" with a specific focus on one particular hazard. We would like to appraise your interest in these tools and in the idea of a INFORM platform for sharing data, practices and priorities.

The survey will require approximately 15 minutes to complete.

If the correct answer is not available among the provided options, please choose "Other/Comment" and add your answer there.

Please note that you can always use "Other/Comment" to add comments on your choices.

Thank you very much for your time in completing this survey.

Please find here a more detailed introduction for you to download.

[INFORM GRI survey introduction.pdf](#)

INFORM website: <http://www.inform-index.org/>

Use of INFORM GRI

In this section we would like to have a better appraisal of your/your organisation's current usage of INFORM GRI.

* 1. Please specify under which capacity you are answering this survey.

- Personal
- As a representative of your organisation

* 2. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, regularly (at least 1 per year)
- Occasionally (less than 1 year)
- Not at the moment but it has been planned to use it
- Not at all
- Other/Comment:

* If you are not using INFORM GRI, what does it lack that prevents you from using it?

Multiple options possible

- More flexibility/modularity
- More up-to-dated indicators/data
- Link to early warning system
- It is too general/aggregated for the needs of my organisation
- Filtering by hazard type (Natural, Biological, Conflicts, Technological hazards)
- The provided reliability measure (i.e. INFORM lack of reliability Index) is not sufficient
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* How often do you/does your organisation use it?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yearly
- Seasonally
- More frequently
- In cases of emergencies and disasters
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* Please specify

***3. Since when do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?**

between 1 and 2 choices

- Since the first technical discussions (2012)
- Since the first official release (2014)
- More recently
- Other/Comment:

***Please specify**

***4. What are you/is your organisation using INFORM GRI for?**

Multiple options possible

- Country analyses
- Humanitarian reports
- Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for humanitarian aid
- Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for development programs
- Communication and advocacy to donors for more support to countries at risk
- Monitoring progress and success of activities/interventions
- Other/Comment:

***Please specify**

*** If you use/your organisation uses INFORM GRI for supporting decision-making for allocation of resources, in which countries do you/does it normally intervene according to INFORM GRI?**

Multiple options possible

- Very high risk countries
- Very high and high risk countries
- Top 10 risk countries
- High increment in the last years/high increase in the score
- A combination of those
- Other/Comment:

***Please specify**

***Why? Please specify**

***5. Has INFORM GRI replaced a previous quantitative risk index you were/your organisation was using?**

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, INFORM GRI is more suitable for my organisation's needs

- No, we were not using any other quantitative index
- Other/Comment:

* If so, please specify why

* Could you please specify which was the previous risk index

* Please specify

* 6. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI in combination with other indices?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, we use it with other global risk indices
- No, we use it alone
- Other/Comment:

* If so, could you please specify which other indices you use

* Please specify

* 7. How do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

Multiple options possible

- As the overall index INFORM GRI
- By dimensions/categories/components
- As a database of indicators
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* 8. Which INFORM GRI's results do you/does your organisation use?

Multiple options possible

- Maps
- Ranking
- Risk trends
- Countries profile

Other/Comment:

* Please specify

*9. Have you/has your organisation adapted INFORM GRI for your/its own specific purposes/analyses?

Multiple options possible

- Yes, we have adapted it by adding other dimensions/categories/components/indicators to the overall INFORM GRI
- Yes, we have adapted it by disaggregating the overall INFORM GRI and adding other dimensions /categories/components/indicators
- No, we use the overall INFORM GRI as it is
- Other/Comment:

* Would you be willing to share your results?

* Would you be willing to share your results?

* Please specify

*10. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI in combination with other qualitative tools?

Multiple options possible

- Yes, we use experts' opinion for validation
- Yes, we use field offices analyses for validation
- No, we only use INFORM GRI
- Other/Comment:

* Would you be willing to share your results?

* Would you be willing to share your results?

* Please specify

* 11. What improvements should be made to INFORM GRI's website in your opinion?

Multiple options possible

- Better design to facilitate access to resources
- More interaction with the data
- Filtering the categories or components
- Trends by components
- Facilitate comparison of trends across countries
- More dynamic visualisation
- More geographical maps per country or region
- Data analysis in tabular form
- Customisation/adaptation of the model for internal use
- Access to a platform for additional information and sharing analyses and decisions
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

Impact of INFORM GRI

In this section we would like to assess INFORM GRI's impact on the way you operate/your organisation operates. We are particularly interested in evaluating whether INFORM GRI has brought meaningful changes in your internal procedures.

* 12. If you have/your organisation has adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures, what changes has INFORM GRI brought?

Multiple options possible

- Shift from reactive to risk based approach (prevention and preparedness)
- Evidence-based risk approach analysis
- Evidence-based countries analysis
- Evidence-based decisions on allocation of resources
- Evidence-based advocacy within the organisation
- Evidence-based advocacy outside the organisation
- Evidence-based advocacy within the affected country
- Evidence-based monitoring of progress and success of activities/interventions
- None of the above/no change
- You have/your organisation has **not** adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures
- Other/Comment:

* If you have/your organisation has **not** adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedure, why not?

Multiple options possible

- INFORM GRI is not useful for my organisation as it is at the country level
- INFORM GRI is not useful for my organisation as it is not updated frequently enough

- Additional efforts should be done for data quality
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* Please specify

* 13. At what level is INFORM GRI used in your organisation?

Multiple options possible

- It is widely used by analysts
- It is partially used by analysts
- Top managers are also aware of its use
- Top managers are not aware of its use
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* 14. In your/your organisation's opinion, has INFORM GRI met its initial expectations?

Multiple options possible

- Yes, it has meaningfully supported a common understanding of humanitarian risks and drivers
- Yes, it has meaningfully supported better coordinated actions among humanitarian and development stakeholders
- Yes, it has improved effectiveness of prioritisation by humanitarian and development stakeholders
- Yes, it has improved effectiveness of allocation of resources among countries in need by humanitarian and development stakeholders
- Maybe, it has partially helped but there is room for improvement
- No, INFORM GRI's added-value has been negligible
- Other/Comment:

* Could you please provide examples?

* Could you please provide examples?

* Please specify

* 15. Have you received any feedback from local offices on how INFORM GRI's usage has influenced their work?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, preparedness has improved (e.g. capacity, response, effectiveness)
- No, I have not received any feedback
- Other/Comment:

* Could you please provide examples?

* Please specify

Advocacy

In this section we would like to measure your satisfaction and your official endorsement/promotion of INFORM GRI. Your responses are important to us because your advocacy affects funding of INFORM GRI and further endeavours.

* 16. Have you recommended INFORM GRI's use either internally or externally?

Multiple options possible

- Yes, I have recommended its use within the organisation, to other Groups/Units/Departments
- Yes, I have recommended its use to partner organisations
- No, I have not recommended its use
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* 17. If you have recommended INFORM GRI's use, can you please tell us by which means?

Multiple options possible

- Sharing information about your use of INFORM GRI
- Referencing INFORM GRI
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

Improvements for future perspectives

In this section we would like to understand how to better address your/your organisation's needs with future improvements in INFORM's tools. Furthermore, since the shared idea under the INFORM initiative is to support a more effective coordination among humanitarian and development practitioners, we would like to assess your willingness and availability to collaborate and participate in a step forward aiming at creating also a platform for sharing knowledge, practices and priorities.

18.(a) Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).

An index with a subnational or regional scale	★ ★ ★ ★
An index yearly updated	★ ★ ★ ★
An index seasonally updated (4 times per year)	★ ★ ★ ★
An index focused on one specific hazard	★ ★ ★ ★

18.(b) If you have any comments on question 18.(a), please write them below.

* 19. If INFORM included a platform to share knowledge, particularly fresh data from the field, practices and priorities for better coordination among humanitarian and development stakeholders, would you/your organisation find it useful to achieve a more effective humanitarian and development assistance?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, I/we think it would definitely help in that sense
- Maybe, I/we think that might help
- No, I/we do not think that is the way
- Other/Comment:

*Please specify

* 20. Above all, would you be willing to contribute to it by sharing your data, knowledge and practices?

between 1 and 2 choices

- Yes, I/we would contribute to it
- I/we would be interested but I/we do not know if that would be feasible
- No, that would not be possible

Other/Comment:

* Please specify

* 21. Which organisation do you belong/represent?

- ACAPS
- DFID
- ECHO
- FAO
- GFDRR/WB
- IDF
- IDMC
- IFRC
- IOM
- Netherlands Red Cross
- OCHA
- OECD
- PDC
- Start Network
- UK Aid
- UNDP
- UNDPA
- UNEP
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNISDR
- UNU-EHS
- UN WOMEN
- US State Department
- WFP
- WHO
- Other/Comment:

* Please specify

Have you learnt any key lessons or best practices that you can share with us? If so, please briefly write them below.

If you have any other suggestions, recommendations or comments, please indicate them below.



Thank you for completing the survey!

For further information, please contact:

Karmen Poljanšek

karmen.poljansek@ec.europa.eu

Laura Messina

laura.messina@ec.europa.eu

Annex B - Full results of INFORM GRI's Impact Survey

Use of INFORM GRI

1. Please specify under which capacity you are answering this survey.

		Answers	Ratio
Personal		6	31.58%
As a representative of your organisation		13	68.42%
No Answer		0	0%

2. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, regularly (at least 1 per year)		10	52.63%
Occasionally (less than 1 year)		8	42.11%
Not at the moment but it has been planned to use it		1	5.26%
Not at all		0	0%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

If you are not using INFORM GRI, what does it lack that prevents you from using it?

		Answers	Ratio
More flexibility/modularity		0	0%
More up-to-dated indicators/data		0	0%
Link to early warning system		0	0%
It is too general/aggregated for the needs of my organisation		0	0%
Filtering by hazard type (Natural, Biological, Conflicts, Technological hazards)		0	0%
The provided reliability measure (i.e. INFORM lack of reliability Index) is not sufficient		0	0%
Other/Comment:		0	0%
No Answer		19	100%

How often do you/does your organisation use it?

		Answers	Ratio
Yearly		1	5.26%
Seasonally		2	10.53%
More frequently		7	36.84%
In cases of emergencies and disasters		1	5.26%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		9	47.37%

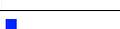
3. Since when do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
Since the first technical discussions (2012)		5	26.32%
Since the first official release (2014)		8	42.11%
More recently		6	31.58%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

4. What are you/is your organisation using INFORM GRI for?

		Answers	Ratio
Country analyses		16	84.21%
Humanitarian reports		6	31.58%
Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for humanitarian aid		8	42.11%
Supporting decision-making for allocation of resources for development programs		1	5.26%
Communication and advocacy to donors for more support to countries at risk		4	21.05%
Monitoring progress and success of activities/interventions		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

If you use/your organisation uses INFORM GRI for supporting decision-making for allocation of resources, in which countries do you/does it normally intervene according to INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
Very high risk countries		2	10.53%
Very high and high risk countries		5	26.32%
Top 10 risk countries		1	5.26%
High increment in the last years/high increase in the score		0	0%
A combination of those		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		11	57.89%

5. Has INFORM GRI replaced a previous quantitative risk index you were/your organisation was using?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, INFORM GRI is more suitable for my organisation's needs		5	26.32%
No, we were not using any other quantitative index		8	42.11%
Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

6. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI in combination with other indices?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, we use it with other global risk indices		13	68.42%
No, we use it alone		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		3	15.79%
No Answer		0	0%

7. How do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI?

		Answers	Ratio
As the overall index INFORM GRI		13	68.42%
By dimensions/categories/components		12	63.16%
As a database of indicators		8	42.11%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

8. Which INFORM GRI's results do you/does your organisation use?

		Answers	Ratio
Maps		5	26.32%
Ranking		15	78.95%
Risk trends		7	36.84%
Countries profile		14	73.68%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

9. Have you/has your organisation adapted INFORM GRI for your/its own specific purposes/analyses?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, we have adapted it by adding other dimensions/categories/components/indicators to the overall INFORM GRI		5	26.32%
Yes, we have adapted it by disaggregating the overall INFORM GRI and adding other dimensions/categories/components/indicators		6	31.58%
No, we use the overall INFORM GRI as it is		10	52.63%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

10. Do you/does your organisation use INFORM GRI in combination with other qualitative tools?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, we use experts' opinion for validation		14	73.68%
Yes, we use field offices analyses for validation		14	73.68%
No, we only use INFORM GRI		2	10.53%

Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

11. What improvements should be made to INFORM GRI's website in your opinion?

		Answers	Ratio
Better design to facilitate access to resources		5	26.32%
More interaction with the data		8	42.11%
Filtering the categories or components		9	47.37%
Trends by components		9	47.37%
Facilitate comparison of trends across countries		8	42.11%
More dynamic visualisation		8	42.11%
More geographical maps per country or region		9	47.37%
Data analysis in tabular form		7	36.84%
Customisation/adaptation of the model for internal use		10	52.63%
Access to a platform for additional information and sharing analyses and decisions		8	42.11%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Impact of INFORM GRI

12. If you have/your organisation has adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures, what changes has INFORM GRI brought?

		Answers	Ratio
Shift from reactive to risk based approach (prevention and preparedness)		8	42.11%
Evidence-based risk approach analysis		10	52.63%
Evidence-based countries analysis		10	52.63%
Evidence-based decisions on allocation of resources		4	21.05%
Evidence-based advocacy within the organisation		6	31.58%
Evidence-based advocacy outside the organisation		4	21.05%
Evidence-based advocacy within the affected country		3	15.79%
Evidence-based monitoring of progress and success of activities/interventions		1	5.26%
None of the above/no change		1	5.26%
You have/your organisation has not adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedures		3	15.79%
Other/Comment:		3	15.79%
No Answer		0	0%

If you have/your organisation has not adopted INFORM GRI in your/its internal procedure, why not?

		Answers	Ratio
INFORM GRI is not useful for my organisation as it is at the country level		2	10.53%
INFORM GRI is not useful for my organisation as it is not updated frequently enough		1	5.26%
Additional efforts should be done for data quality		1	5.26%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		16	84.21%

13. At what level is INFORM GRI used in your organisation?

		Answers	Ratio
It is widely used by analysts		5	26.32%
It is partially used by analysts		12	63.16%
Top managers are also aware of its use		8	42.11%
Top managers are not aware of its use		4	21.05%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

14. In your/your organisation's opinion, has INFORM GRI met its initial expectations?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, it has meaningfully supported a common understanding of humanitarian risks and drivers		5	26.32%
Yes, it has meaningfully supported better coordinated actions among humanitarian and development stakeholders		3	15.79%
Yes, it has improved effectiveness of prioritisation by humanitarian and development stakeholders		2	10.53%
Yes, it has improved effectiveness of allocation of resources among countries in need by humanitarian and development stakeholders		2	10.53%
Maybe, it has partially helped but there is room for improvement		10	52.63%
No, INFORM GRI's added-value has been negligible		4	21.05%
Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

15. Have you received any feedback from local offices on how INFORM GRI's usage has influenced their work?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, preparedness has improved (e.g. capacity, response, effectiveness)		3	15.79%
No, I have not received any feedback		13	68.42%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Advocacy

16. Have you recommended INFORM GRI's use either internally or externally?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I have recommended its use within the organisation, to other Groups/Units/Departments		13	68.42%
Yes, I have recommended its use to partner organisations		6	31.58%
No, I have not recommended its use		5	26.32%
Other/Comment:		1	5.26%
No Answer		0	0%

17. If you have recommended INFORM GRI's use, can you please tell us by which means?

		Answers	Ratio
Sharing information about your use of INFORM GRI		14	73.68%
Referencing INFORM GRI		10	52.63%
Other/Comment:		5	26.32%
No Answer		0	0%

Improvements for future perspective

18.(a) Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).: An index with a subnational or regional scale

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		3	15.79%
2/4		1	5.26%
3/4		2	10.53%
4/4		13	68.42%
No Answer		0	0%

18.(a) Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).: An index yearly updated

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		9	47.37%
2/4		3	15.79%
3/4		5	26.32%
4/4		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

18.(a) Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).: An index seasonally updated (4 times per year)

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		4	21.05%
2/4		4	21.05%
3/4		5	26.32%
4/4		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

18.(a) Please indicate which one of the following tools better address your/your organisation's needs by rating your/your organisation's interest in them from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest).: An index focused on one specific hazard

		Answers	Ratio
1/4		5	26.32%
2/4		7	36.84%
3/4		3	15.79%
4/4		4	21.05%
No Answer		0	0%

19. If INFORM included a platform to share knowledge, particularly fresh data from the field, practices and priorities for better coordination among humanitarian and development stakeholders, would you/your organisation find it useful to achieve a more effective humanitarian and development assistance?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I/we think it would definitely help in that sense		7	36.84%
Maybe, I/we think that might help		9	47.37%
No, I/we do not think that is the way		1	5.26%
Other/Comment:		6	31.58%
No Answer		0	0%

20. Above all, would you be willing to contribute to it by sharing your data, knowledge and practices?

		Answers	Ratio
Yes, I/we would contribute to it		8	42.11%
I/we would be interested but I/we do not know if that would be feasible		11	57.89%
No, that would not be possible		0	0%
Other/Comment:		2	10.53%
No Answer		0	0%

21. Which organisation do you belong/represent?

		Answers	Ratio
ACAPS		0	0%
DFID		1	5.26%
ECHO		2	10.53%

FAO		0	0%
GFDRR/WB		0	0%
IDF		0	0%
IDMC	■	1	5.26%
IFRC	■	1	5.26%
IOM	■	1	5.26%
Netherlands Red Cross		0	0%
OCHA	■	1	5.26%
OECD	■	1	5.26%
PDC		0	0%
Start Network	■	1	5.26%
UK Aid		0	0%
UNDP		0	0%
UNDPA		0	0%
UNEP	■	1	5.26%
UNFPA		0	0%
UNHCR	■	1	5.26%
UNICEF	■	2	10.53%
UNISDR		0	0%
UNU-EHS		0	0%
UN WOMEN		0	0%
US State Department		0	0%
WFP	■	2	10.53%
WHO		0	0%
Other/Comment:	■	4	21.05%
No Answer		0	0%

Annex C - INFORM website survey 2017

INFORM website survey 2017

Survey on the future development of the INFORM website

Scope

1. **1. The INFORM website was initially designed to be low-profile (essential, mostly a web-content for retrieving the latest results). Do you still thinking this should be the scope?**

Tick all that apply.

- Yes
 No

2. **Please specify:**

Current usage

3. **2. How often do you visit the INFORM website?**

Mark only one oval.

- 1/year
 1/month
 1/week
 Never

4. **3. Which kind of information you usually look for?**

Tick all that apply.

- Latest results (Excel)
 Latest documents
 Country profile
 Data interaction (map)
 Other: _____

5. **4. Are you able to find easily what you are looking for?**

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No
 Not always

6. Please specify:

7. 5. Please rate the website as a whole.

Mark only one oval per row.

	Hate it	Don't Like it	Neutral	Like it	Love it
Appearance (in browser)	<input type="radio"/>				
Aesthetics (in general)	<input type="radio"/>				
Professionalism	<input type="radio"/>				
Ease of Use	<input type="radio"/>				
Information/Content	<input type="radio"/>				
Comprehensive	<input type="radio"/>				
Functionality (i.e. links)	<input type="radio"/>				

8. 6. What do you think is missing in the Subnational pages?

Tick all that apply.

- Sub-country profile
- More documentation
- Other: _____

9. Please specify:

10. 7. Are you willing to contribute to the content of the website?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

11. Please specify (i.e. adding related news/documents from my organisation, moderating forum):

Future development

12. 8. What is it about this site that you would most like to see improved?

13. 9. What changes or additional features would you suggest for this website?

Tick all that apply.

- Better interaction with the data/results
- More documentation/material
- News, widgets (contents from other sources)
- New homepage with more contents
- Forum
- Feedback form
- Other: _____

14. Please give some examples:

15. 10. Which new features you would like to suggest?

Tick all that apply.

- Smartphone App
- Optimisation for mobile
- Newsletter
- Other: _____

Annex D – Results of INFORM website survey 2017

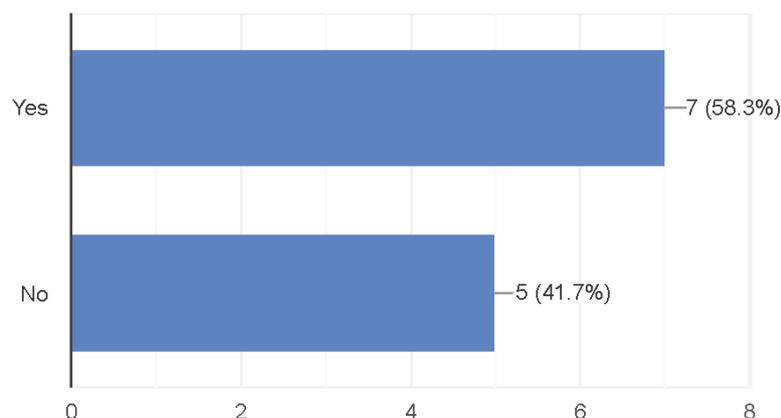
INFORM website survey 2017

13 responses

Scope

1. The INFORM website was initially designed to be low-profile (essential, mostly a web-content for retrieving the latest results). Do you still thinking this should be the scope?

12 responses



Please specify:

5 responses

I think it can be kept quite simple, provided it gives access to the results, ability to analyse them and sufficient guidance/background. I don't see the need for much additional content. The expansion of INFORM Subnational and also the severity work may require additional sections for the website.

I believe Inform would gain at providing more detailed and contextual analysis, especially when related to trends and changes over time.

i think it should be accessibly presenting the data in the simplest way.

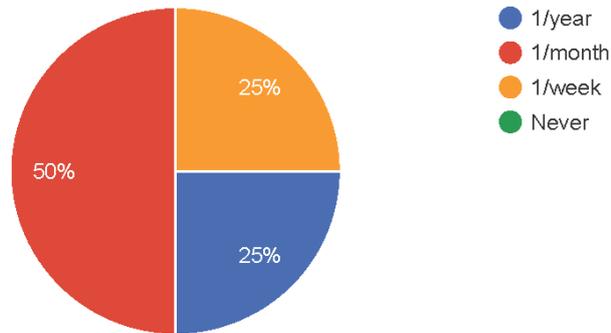
It should help guide prioritisation now. Be open to challenge from externals.

ADD MORE CONTENT ABOUT COUNTRIES, USING OTHER AVAILABLE PUBLIC REPORTS. IMPROVE THE SUBNATIONAL COUNTRY PROFILES WHEN DATA AVAILABLE

Current usage

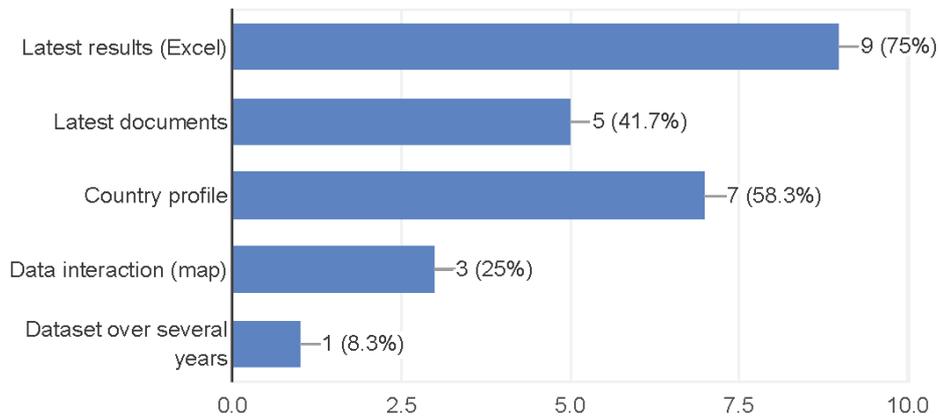
2. How often do you visit the INFORM website?

12 responses



3. Which kind of information you usually look for?

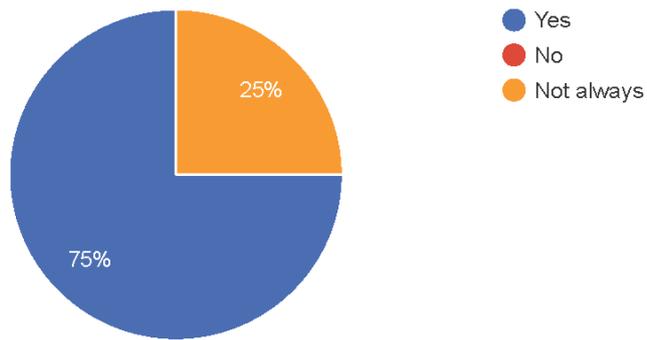
12 responses



4. Are you able to find easily what you are looking for?

12 responses

..



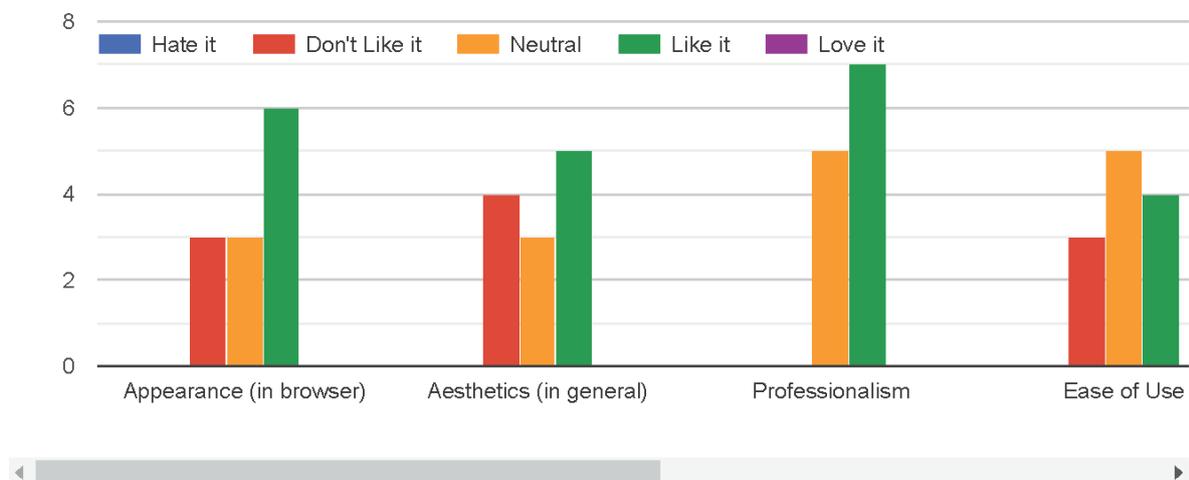
Please specify:

2 responses

just some headings explaining the files that are for download would be helpful.

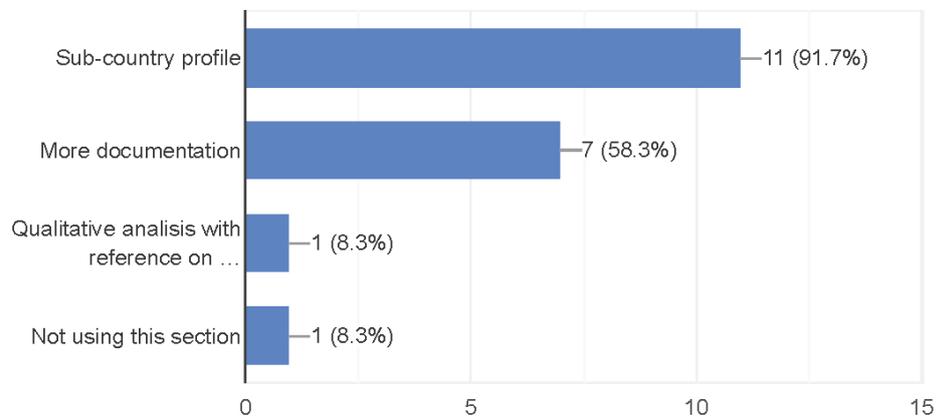
The website could be better organised so that it is easier to find information. Especially the homepage.

5. Please rate the website as a whole.



6. What do you think is missing in the Subnational pages?

12 responses



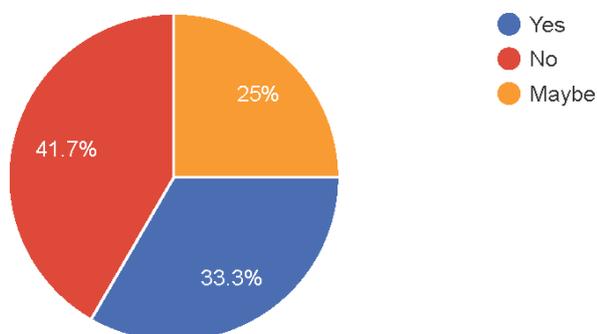
Please specify:

1 response

Need to think about how global, regional, national maps are related

7. Are you willing to contribute to the content of the website?

12 responses



Please specify (i.e. adding related news/documents from my organisation, moderating forum):

5 responses

I don't think the INFORM website needs to duplicate other content.

Publishing news/briefs from my agency

I think indicators could eventually be assessed overtime, especially in their relevancy to reflect severity and magnitude of a crisis. This tool could and should be more oriented towards humanitarian issues and could with time integrate more data when available... maybe at sub national level for a start/pilot.

Not qualified/in a position to contribute

UNDP PUBLICATIONS ON COUNTRIES

Future development

8. What is it about this site that you would most like to see improved?

11 responses

Results visualisation / analysis. Subnational profiles.

Better visualisation of the results

More up to date humanitarian indicators should be issued to better reflect severity and magnitude of a crisis.

When significant changes of rating occur, reasons leading to increase or decrease should be better explained

The interactive maps, as with some office computers, the flash content does not always work well due to internal policies on updates

The qualitative analysis

clarity on finding information

The design

i think it could be made a bit more user friendly the web site is not very intuitive

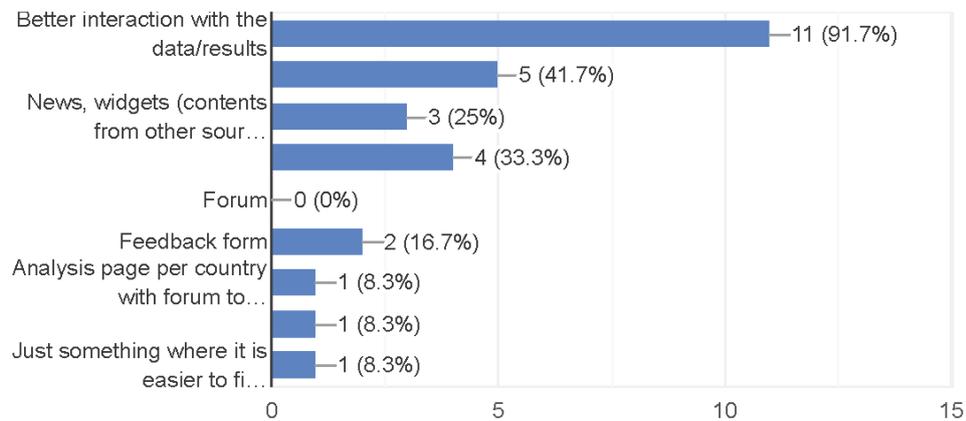
Linkages with PreventionWeb.

Functionality and interactive elements. would be good to dive into correlations between the data.

MOBILE / TABLET VERSION. SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

9. What changes or additional features would you suggest for this website?

12 responses



Please give some examples:

2 responses

be able to compare several countries at several moments (to compare trends)

headings of data available for download to help ease of identifying relevant documents

10. Which new features you would like to suggest?

10 responses



GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE EU

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